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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/740,634	12/18/2000	Wilhelm Schmid	GR 98 P 1916 P	4357

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EXAMINER

PATEL, PARESH H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2829

DATE MAILED: 06/25/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/740,634

Applicant(s)

SCHMID ET AL.

Examiner

Paresh Patel

Art Unit

2829

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5, 6, 8 and 14-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7 and 9-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election of species of fig. 1 (claims 1-4, 7 and 9-13) in Paper No. 8 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Quinn (US 3801910).

Regarding claim 1, Quinn discloses: an integrated circuit component [10], comprising:

a plurality of connecting contact points [34 or 14 and lines 15-19 of column 8];

a plurality of circuit points [30 and lines 17-34 of column 5] that are not externally accessible and that provide electrical signals to be measured or analyzed; and

at least one external test connecting contact point [16 or 19 or 39 which is connected to tester] to which the signals to be measured or analyzed can be selectively

applied such that the signals can be passed on via routes [38 or 17] within the integrated circuit component from said plurality of circuit points that are not externally accessible.

Regarding claim 2, Quinn discloses: said at least one external test connecting contact point is a plurality of external test connecting contact points [14 and lines 58-61 of column 4]; a reference signal is selectively applied and passed on via a route within the integrated circuit component to one of said plurality of external test connecting contact points from one of said plurality of circuit points that are not externally accessible [30, 14, 40 and lines 57-68 of column 4]; and said signals to be measured or analyzed can be selectively applied to be passed on via routes within the integrated circuit component from said plurality of circuit points that are not externally accessible to said plurality of external test connecting contact points other than said one of said plurality of external test connecting contact points [14 and lines 58-61 of column 4, lines 10-16 of column 5, and lines 8-13 of column 8].

Regarding claim 3, Quinn discloses: said plurality of external test connecting contact points is exactly two external test connecting contact points [14 and lines 57-61 of column 4].

Regarding claim 4, Quinn discloses: said electrical signals are internal chip signals [lines 1-10 of column 3] in the integrated circuit component; and reference signals and said electrical signals can be selectively passed on to said at least one external test connecting contact point [lines 57-61 of column 4].

Regarding claim 10, Quinn discloses: said at least one external test connecting contact point can be selectively used in an opposite operating direction for inputting signals to said plurality of circuit points that are not externally accessible [lines 57-61 of column 4].

Regarding claim 11, Quinn discloses: said at least one external test connecting contact point is connected to a component tester for analyzing the electrical signals at, at least some of said plurality of circuit points [lines 57-61 of column 4 and TESTER of fig. 1].

Regarding claim 12, Quinn discloses: at least one external test connecting contact point is connected to a system and an application of said system analyzes the electrical signals at, at least some of said plurality of circuit points [lines 57-61 of column 4, lines 21-24 of column 5 and TESTER of fig. 1].

Regarding claim 13, Quinn discloses: said at least one external test connecting contact point is used for analyzing a system [fig. 1 or fig. 3] in which said integrated circuit [10] is used.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quinn as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Du Chene et al. (US 4982403).

Regarding claim 7, Quinn discloses all the essential elements of the claimed invention except for a time-controlled multiplexing circuit is provided for selectively passing on the electrical signals to said at least one external test connecting contact point. Rather, Quinn discloses a laser source [23] for selectively passing on the electrical signals to said at least one external test connecting contact point [lines 49-61 of column 4].

Du Chene et al. (hereafter Chene) discloses a time-controlled multiplexing circuit [8 and 7 of fig. 5] for selectively passing on the electrical signals to said at least one external test connecting contact point. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the integrated circuit component of Quinn and substitute a time-controlled multiplexing circuit of Chene for a laser source because Chene discloses time-controlled multiplexing circuit is capable of selectively passing electrical signals to the external test contact points.

Regarding claim 9, Chene discloses: said multiplexing circuit is programmably controlled [8 of fig. 5 and lines 65-68 of column 4 and lines 1-7 of column 5] to predetermine selective passing on of the electrical signals to said at least one external test connecting contact point.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paresh Patel whose telephone number is 703-306-5859. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30 to 4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Sherry can be reached on 703-308-1680.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Paresh Patel
June 23, 2002



MICHAEL SHERRY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800